

# THE REPUBLIC.

WASHINGTON:

FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26, 1853.

## Ought the Federal Patronage to be Increased?

In the seven years' war waged between the Whigs and Democrats upon the issue of the United States Bank, we understand the Whigs to have contended, first, that the Executive exceeded its powers by removing the public money without authority of the Legislature; and second, that the Bank of the United States should have been reincorporated, because it was necessary to regulate the currency and exchanges. The party organization which formed around the Executive assumed that the just odium which rested upon the bank was a justification of the measure complained of. Though it remains, and must ever remain, a dangerous precedent, under which the power usurped for the prostration of an unpopular institution may yet be employed for other and more dangerous purposes.

Experience has shown that the idea of relying upon one bank to regulate the foreign and domestic exchanges of this vast empire would be as practical as to regulate the tides of the sea by a Yankee clock. So the country has been happily rid of one vast organism of power and political corruption. It was a fortunate thing that there was an accidental antagonism between the Federal Government and the bank; united they would have been irresistible, and but for this party division the United States Bank would long since have gone over to the power which held the deposits, and its offices would have been at this time as much an object of distribution as those of the Post Office or Custom House. Happy would it have been for the country if it had alike repudiated the removal of the deposits and the restoration of the bank.

In this long and embittered contest the Democratic party had one strong vantage ground. It always contended that the connection between Bank and State was inconsistent with the principles of a Republican Government. They depicted the results of employing the public money to effect commercial results. They showed the influence which the control of this vast engine must have over popular necessities, and the tempting inducements which it could hold out to irresolute or rapacious politicians.

This was a powerful and just argument. It was in truth a Whig argument, for it was urged against the system of Federal corruption and the growth of Federal patronage, the cardinal doctrine upon which the Whig party was founded. But we have never been able to see why the principle of separating the Government from a dangerous organism did not equally apply in all cases which bestowed upon the Federal Government the control of men and money. And we have been especially astonished to see not only the connection between the Public Press and the Public Treasury become a regular measure of Democratic policy, but also the connection between the States and an extended system of internal improvements recognised as a settled subject of Democratic action and a regular object of party conflict and of party reward. That this system is advocated by their opponents is no argument of its propriety. The same principle which sought the separation of Bank and State, should oppose the union of Press and State, or of Canal and State. If the principle means anything, it means the separation of power and patronage, and should be applied wherever that result is to be apprehended.

Whilst the country rang with the clamors of basis and circulation—whilst politicians were gazing through party-stained glasses upon the comets in the financial sky—enthusiastic gentlemen were exerting themselves in the State Legislatures to secure the construction of artificial ways of communication, intended to develop local interests. Public opinion was generally divided as to whether these gentlemen were desirous to secure the local expenditure for the interior cities of Bagdad and Persepolis, which as yet existed chiefly upon the colored diagram of the county surveyor; or whether they belonged to the [insane] family of Miss Dix. The enthusiasts ventured to hint that the commerce of the Lakes, or of the Mississippi, might be carried, by artificial ways, direct to the Atlantic; but were so ridiculed by those who knew better that, for fear of injuring Bagdad or Persepolis, they modified the absurd intimation. As the legislative discussions upon these subjects were always postponed to the republished debates upon Federal resolutions, the world was ignorant of their growth and progress.

By and by, however, came the "glorious army" of Irishmen armed with pickaxes, and commanded by contractors; then came perfected experiment and popular conviction; then came competition for subscriptions, and heated questions of location and construction; and then stood revealed and perfected a magnificent system of internal communication, reversing the natural channel of trade, spreading the sail, peopling the wilderness, and sending that greatest missionary, the locomotive, upon his path of iron with his breath of steam.

The politicians soon saw that the people turned from the comet to look at the cars, as the greater curiosity of the two, and they could never afterwards get an audience to their lectures on financial astronomy. But they saw there was power and patronage in this new system, and they hastened to connect themselves with it. They soon knew as much of excavation and embankment, grades and curvatures, as they had done of circulation and discount. They very soon showed that it was they who had made certain predictions about the Mississippi and Pacific trade, and proved conclusively that, as they had voted for JACKSON or HARRISON, they were the proper persons to superintend receipts and disbursements, employ toll-keepers, engineers, and conductors, "negotiate" in Europe the corporation or State "securities," and grant free tickets to party dignitaries or drummers.

Hence we have seen the election of a person to manage the canal of New York or Pennsylvania indicate with infallible certainty the choice of a President to conduct our relations with England and Mexico or determine our revenue policy.

Hence we witness the extraordinary spectacle in America of a legislative corps of impeachment sitting to try a commissioner of railroads and canals upon the allegation of a corrupt bargain in dividing the public money as a spoil between rival bands of political brigands.

And hence we see that "a sale of the State works of Pennsylvania" is now under consideration in that State, and "finds much favor among Whigs, Democrats, and Independents." We publish in another column the article upon this subject, from which we make the following extract, an extract descriptive of the evil to which we have adverted:

"The public works [of Pennsylvania] have not only become in the hands of political demagogues so powerful an engine of corruption, and have been so long and so grossly mismanaged; their revenues have been so regularly diminished by peculation and fraud, and the State debt so constantly and heavily increased to aid them, that the people have grown weary of the twenty years' attempt to make them profitable."

As this mischievous system is spreading into other States, we trust that the Pennsylvania movement may be successful. In the meantime we invoke the attention of all those who would have the great Pacific railroad a Federal monopoly, its administration a subject of party warfare, and its revenues a placer rich with political treasures to the following significant facts.

Like the fisherman in the Arabian tales, England is endeavoring to subject again the gigantic powers of the Indian monopoly to the confinement of legislative control.

MATHER, the Canal Commissioner of New York, is upon his trial before the highest tribunal known to the American law for the heinous offence of having employed the public money for the corruption of the public morals. The State of Pennsylvania is discussing the sale—possibly the sacrifice—of her interest in a subject of investment which has cost her forty millions to purify her councils from these iniquities of the connection.

Let not then the Federal Government plunge into a morass, from which others are so anxious of extrication, when the act will be on her part so unnecessary and the consequences so fearful.

## Crawford.

Many a ream of paper does the printer spoil, of which the printer only reaps the profits; but now and then comes along a book which everybody must read, and this is a mine of wealth to publishers and the public. Such a volume is *Crawford*, just issued from the press of the HARPERs, one of the cleverest, most faithful, and most amusing pictures of village society that ever fell under our eye. We have been quite fascinated with the unpretending little book, and most heartily commend it to our readers. It may be found—for a while—at all the bookstores, but if you do not call soon you will have to wait for the second edition. *Crawford* will run up to a sale of 50,000 copies in the next twelve months.

## Black House.

DICKENS, with the eighteenth number, brings *Black House* far towards its conclusion. The last is one of the best numbers of the series—and the whole work is one of its author's best. With the exception of a few disagreeable chapters, which seem to have been written only to show how well the author could handle offensive subjects, *Black House* is in an admirable tone throughout, and adds many striking characters to our studies of life. Seeking his originals in nature, Dickens never repeats himself, but exhibits in his characters that infinite variety which we find in the world. Among the numerous characters to whom we are introduced in this remarkable work of fiction we know of none which is a copy. All are fresh and unbacked. We are no longer surprised at the unbounded admiration which was uniformly expressed for DICKENS by the first critic of his age, and of which the letters annexed to the life of Lord JEFFREYS furnish such abundant testimony.

## Coleridge.

The sixth and seventh volumes of the complete works of COLERIDGE have just issued from the press of the HARPERs, the last containing those magnificent poems which have immortalized their author. The sixth volume contains, among other things, the specimens of his *Table Talk*, which are all that remain to us of the most wonderful conversation of his age. It is by his conversation and his poetry that COLERIDGE will be known to posterity, as by them he is best known to his contemporaries. His other works have never attained great popularity, though they have impressed themselves on the literature of the United States, as well as of England.

## Charge d'Affaires to Buenos Ayres.

We copy the following in relation to the newly-appointed Charge d'Affaires to the Argentine Republic, or Buenos Ayres. If it be true, we do not suppose the Government will be much embarrassed in finding a person willing to take the place:

"COLONEL BISSELL.—The Salem (Ill.) *Advocate* says: In a letter of the 29th ultimo, to the editor, Colonel B. writes: 'My health is daily improving, and I have every reason to expect it will be re-established before the middle of autumn. I shall not accept the appointment—for I hope to be able to discharge my duties in Congress during the two next sessions—and I mean to do it. Justice to myself and to my constituents requires it.'"

PENSION FORGERIES.—Garrett S. Shuffield, convicted before the United States district court of New York for forging papers in a pension case, was, on Tuesday, sentenced to the State's prison (Sing Sing) for seven years. There were other cases pending against him, but they were not pressed.

CINCINNATI, August 24.—The Ohio Democratic State Convention, now in session here, nominated to-day James H. Myers, of Toledo, for Lieutenant Governor, in place of Mr. Bliss, who had declined.

## The Comet.

We find in the *National Intelligencer* of yesterday the following particular description of the comet which for several nights has attracted the attention of astronomers and others: The Comet now visible was discovered June 10th, at Göttingen, by Mr. Klinkerfuss. It was first seen at the National Observatory, in this city, on the 28th July, and a notice was published in the *National Intelligencer* of its observed place on the 29th, and that it was then probably visible to the naked eye. It has been observed on every favorable night since, and has constantly increased in brightness. By the last observations its place is as follows:

M. T. Washington. R. Ascension. Dec. North. h. m. s. h. m. s. o. " Aug. 23, at 7 21 11 11 33 6 25 1 50 The diameter of the nucleus when last measured was eleven seconds of arc, and the length of the coma fifty-two minutes. It was visible in the great refractor of the Observatory at fifty-five minutes past six o'clock.

It is not at present identified with any previous comet. Its approximate elements by Mr. Bruhn, of Berlin, will be found in the first communication from the Observatory, published in this paper. The passage of the perihelion will be about the 27th August, as there given. It is now probably near its maximum brightness.

## Elements of the Orbit by C. Bruhn.

Passage of perihelion August 27, 213, mean time Berlin. Longitude of the perihelion, 310° 31' 12". Longitude of the ascending node, 140° 50' 27.6". Inclination, 59° 54' 23.1". Logarithm of perihelion distance, 9.491256.

The *New York Commercial Advertiser* furnishes the following description, which perhaps is more satisfactory to those unskilled in the astronomical ascensions and declensions:

"Probably our astronomers will take up this subject and report the name, date, period, &c., of the 'illustrious stranger.' Meantime, to an unprofessional eye, through a good telescope, it presents the following appearance: The nucleus is clearly defined, circular, and of a pale white shade. The tail shoots up in nearly a perpendicular line, gracefully spreading as it goes, and diminishing again to a point; the length of the tail being about ten times, and the extreme width about twice the diameter of the nucleus. The entire apparent length does not much exceed one degree; this comet, therefore, is much smaller than any we are accustomed to see."

## Mr. Borland's Appointment.

The *Mobile Daily Advertiser* quotes the sixth section of the first article of the Constitution, that no Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the United States "which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time," and asks how this provision

"Can be reconciled with the recent appointment of Mr. Borland, of Arkansas, as Minister to Central America? The office was created by the last Congress, (of which Mr. Borland was a member,) and his appointment to it was made 'during the time for which he was elected.' If it should be contended, in opposition to this view, that the office had already existed as a *charge d'affaires*, and was only modified in form by elevating it to a full mission, the difficulty would not be diminished, for it cannot be denied that the emoluments have been increased." Mr. Borland receives just twice the salary of any of his predecessors by virtue of an act of the late Congress, of which he was a member. Either horn of this dilemma presents a difficulty which we confess ourselves unable to solve. Of course, however, it is not to be presumed that the present 'strict construction' administration would commit so gross a violation of the plain letter of the Constitution, as this would seem to be, unless there were some explanation of it not patent to the eye of an unenlightened observer. Of course Mr. Borland, whose sensitiveness with regard to constitutional law is so extreme (if we mistake not) as to lead him to oppose the Fugitive Slave law on this ground—of course he would not accept an office in relation to which there was a shadow of a shade of suspicion of unconstitutionality. We ask enlightenment on this point, and hope that some of our Democratic contemporaries will afford it.

## New Publications.

The *London Art Journal*, for August, we have received from Mr. B. W. FERGUSON, the agent. It contains four large-sized engravings, either one of which is worth the price of the book. Besides these, there is a variety of other engravings and descriptive text. Mr. FERGUSON is to be found on Seventh street.

We are again indebted to BUCKINGHAM, of the literary depot under the National Hotel, for Gleason and Barnum's pictorial for this week. The illustrations for the most part are excellent.

"Household Words," by CHARLES DICKENS, No. 5, volume 7, we have received from the American publishers.

CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND.—The Union publishes an official copy of the convention concluded between the United States and England, in February last, for the appointment of a commissioner by each government, who are to choose an umpire and meet in London, to adjust and settle all claims on the part of corporations, companies, or private individuals of the respective nations which may have been presented to either Government for its interposition with the other since the signature of the treaty of peace and friendship concluded at Ghent, on the 24th of December, 1814, and which yet remain unsettled, as well as any other such claims which may be presented within six months after the commissioners shall meet, or in case of unavoidable delay, within a period designated by the commissioners, not exceeding three months longer. The commissioners are to decide upon all claims within one year after first assembling, and their decision in all cases to be final. All sums of money awarded by them to be paid by one Government to the other as the case may be, within twelve months after the date of the decision, without interest.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NEW YORK.—About ten o'clock on Tuesday night a fire was discovered in the Pearl Street House, in New York, which continued, notwithstanding the strenuous exertions of the firemen, until that large building was completely destroyed. One-half of the lower part of the building was occupied as an oil store, and the other for the storage of liquors. There were at the time over three hundred boarders in the house, the most of whom escaped in their night clothes and saved nothing but their lives—not more than twenty trucks being saved. The building was insured for \$45,000. One boarder lost \$15,000, which was in his trunk at the time. Two firemen were seriously injured by the falling of portions of the walls. The losses are thus summed up: boarders, \$50,000; on building, \$30,000; furniture, \$20,000; stores beneath, \$75,000.

Two other fires occurred in New York the same night, and towards morning one broke out in Williamsburg, burning several large stables and a number of dwellings. Two valuable horses were burned; and the total loss was over \$14,000.

## WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

WASHINGTON, August 25, 1853. I did not intrude upon your columns yesterday, because I had really nothing to say which I had the vanity to believe would be of slightest interest to your readers. And I am little better off to-night. We are again in the midst of one of those periodical seasons of news famine, that ever and anon put the most industrious news gatherer upon short allowance. A day or two will probably bring relief to all parties; so, good reader, don't get impatient, but rely trustfully on the "good time coming."

Major Mordecai, who returned a day or two since from Mexico, whether he went on the last expedition in search of the alleged Gardiner mines, has not yet made his report, but will do so very soon. Before going on this duty Major Mordecai was in command of the United States arsenal near this city, which command he has not resumed. Major Mordecai is spoken of by those who know him best as a "walking manual" relative to any and every thing pertaining to the ordnance service. He is a man of science, thoroughly skilled in his profession, for which he seems to have a passionate attachment, and is a gentleman of strictest probity and great prudence. Especially does he know how to keep his own counsel, and the Government did well in selecting him for the Gardiner commission. His own family even were not apprized of the nature of his business or the direction in which he was about to go when he started for Mexico; and it was some time after his departure before it was suspected. Indeed, so quietly did he depart, that when it was announced that he had gone, and upon the business stated, the special correspondent of a New York paper indignantly telegraphed to his office that Major Mordecai's departure, &c., was news in Washington.

The arsenal is at present under command of Lieutenant Crispie, a young and popular officer, under whose direction very large amounts of guns and ammunition are being forwarded to the Rio Grande. Among the shipments now being made is that of a heavy battery.

The military storekeeper at the arsenal is Major Theodore Lewis, who served his country gallantly in Mexico, and is well known as a kind and amiable gentleman, as well as a faithful public officer.

R. C. Murphy, esq., recently appointed United States Consul at Shanghai, was married to-day to Miss Lynde, of this city. The wedding, which took place at the residence of the bride, was attended by a number of distinguished gentlemen, among whom was M. Villamil, the Minister from Ecuador, in full uniform.

The mail just received from Santa Fé brings intelligence that Major Weightman, the late delegate to Congress from New Mexico, had been "posted" at the former place by Lieutenant Francis J. Thomas, U. S. A., of Maryland, and that a street fight between the parties was expected. Cause—a private quarrel, originating at a public house. Several days had elapsed since the "posting," but neither party had broken the peace. There is something a little singular in the story; for those who know Major Weightman (and he has numerous friends in this city) will not believe him likely to submit tamely to insult from any quarter.

I take pleasure in stating that the Hon. Secretary of the Navy has so far recovered from his recent indisposition as to be able to resume the discharge of his official duties.

John B. Kinne, of Iowa, said to be a sound lawyer, and prudent man, has been appointed Chief Justice for the Territory of Utah.

J. G. Willis, of Massachusetts, has been appointed United States Consul Agent at Loango, on the west coast of Africa, a few miles north of the Congo river.

## ZEKE.

EXTRAORDINARY SALES OF CATTLE.—In the *Cincinnati Enquirer* of the 22d we find a report of sales by the "Kentucky Importing Association," of short-horned stock purchased in England in 1853. The cattle were sold at the farm of Brutus Clay, esq., in Bourbon county, Kentucky, with the restriction that they were not to be taken out of Kentucky for one year. Ten bulls—which cost in England \$5,430, or an average of \$543 each—were sold for \$31,674, or an average of over \$3,167 each. The highest price paid for any one in England was \$1,050—and that sold for \$1,500; while a diamond roan which cost but \$630, sold for \$6,001. Neither of the bulls was over three years.

Fifteen cows and heifers of the same stock were sold at prices ranging from \$355 to \$3,050 each. Sheep, Southdown, three bucks sold for \$755, \$480, \$340; and three ewes for \$350, \$180, \$230. Cotswold, two bucks, \$1,010, \$710, and six ewes \$270, \$150, \$221, \$230, \$200, \$150, \$200. Leicester, one buck and two ewes sold for \$52 each.

Cleveland bay horse, (Young Lord,) cost \$1,000; sold for \$2,800.

FATAL ACCIDENTS IN NEW YORK.—On Tuesday a mother, by mistake, gave to her child of two years of age a teaspoonful of laudanum; of course producing death.

On Monday a little boy, two years and a half old, was run over by an omnibus and instantly killed; and on the same night another boy came to his death in the same manner.

A young man, aged twenty-one years, in attempting to jump upon a ferry-boat which had pushed off from the wharf, fell into the river and was drowned; and another, of about the same age, fell out of a canal-boat while in liquor, and was drowned.

BALLOON ASCENSION.—We perceive by the Virginia papers that Mr. John Wise, the veteran aeronaut, will make an ascension in his mammoth balloon on Thursday next, the 31st instant, from Shannondale Springs. A large number of visitors are now at the Springs, and this entertainment is got up by the proprietor for the gratification of his guests.

HIGH PRICE FOR SLAVES.—The *Easton (Md.) Star* states that on Thursday last Mr. William R. Hughtell purchased of Mr. John S. Martin four male servants, for which he paid four thousand and fifty dollars—being \$1,012 50 each, which is the highest price ever paid for servants in that section of country.

NEW ORLEANS, August 22.—The deaths yesterday numbered three hundred and fifteen. To-day they number two hundred and eighty-three, including two hundred and sixty-five of yellow fever. There is a fearful increase of the pestilence.

ARRIVAL OF SICK IMMIGRANTS.—Within a fortnight three ships have arrived at this port from Liverpool, bringing the following immigrant passengers, nearly all sick:

Ship Star of Empire	888
Ship Lapland	516
Ship Staffordshire	590
Total	1,994

(Boston Chronicle, 24th.)

## The Pestilence at New Orleans.

We continue our summary from the New Orleans papers of incidents occurring during the pestilence:

W. H. Van Horn, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa., and a clerk in the *Crescent* office, died on the 18th, leaving a young widow to mourn his untimely fate.

The Rev. A. F. Dobb pastor of Trinity church, died on the 18th instant.

The *Delta*, commenting upon the cannon firing, states that while credit is due to the authorities for adopting any expedient calculated to mitigate the sufferings of the stricken city, still it has little hope that it will produce the desired effect.

The *Bulletin* says: "Cannon were fired yesterday in various directions, we presume in the hope of purifying the atmosphere of the pestilential germ that infects it. It is only a waste of gunpowder. Such expedients have been frequently tried, but we never yet heard of their doing any good."

The *Bulletin* further states: "Our columns present a rather meagre appearance this morning, so far as reading matter is concerned. We could not help it, however. Two-thirds of our correspondents are either down with the fever, or their families are afflicted with the same terrible disease, and as for obtaining assistance, that is entirely out of the question. There's not a printer here in town either for 'love or money.' Under such circumstances we can only do our best, and patiently and hopefully await the arrival of better times. Surely the terrible mortality and the dreadfully unfavorable weather—for they both march hand in hand—will not continue much longer."

Notwithstanding the distress around them, the *Picayune*, which has ever recommended cheerfulness, contains the following:

A BULL.—A friend happening in at a refreshment house, last evening, overheard the following interesting dialogue:

Mr. A.—"I declare I don't feel right this evening, (feeling his pulse,) some fever there."

Knight of the Tumbler.—"Sure, Mr. A., wasn't you born in the city?"

Mr. A.—"O yes; I'm not afraid of yellow jack, but somehow I feel devilish queer just now."

Knight of the Tumbler.—"Tut, tut, man, never you fear of dying with the fever as long as you live. Sure it will never be the likes of you that will go to the other world as long as you're drinking good brandy."

Mr. A. called for the black bottle, and after partaking quite generously of its contents, walked off with restored confidence, without discovering the point.

## Horace Greeley, LL. D.

The *New York Evening Post*, a few days since, announced that lately, at the commencement of the University of Vermont, the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon Horace Greeley, esq., of New York. A few days after, the *New York Times* contradicted this statement. We know not which is correct. We find the original announcement, however, still going the rounds of the press, and it elicits many comments; and from them we take the following from the *Albany State Register*:

"We are sorry he has been made an LL. D. We are, indeed. We can't say Doctor Greeley. In speaking of him, we can't say 'The learned Doctor.' It doesn't come natural to us. It is removing him from his natural sphere. There are thousands of LL. D.'s in the world, but there is only one Horace Greeley. By that name he will go down to posterity, or he won't go down at all. We hope, therefore, he will cut the LL. D., and strike for immortality on his baptismal name."

## St. Louis and the East.

We find in the *St. Louis Intelligencer* an interesting article on the Missouri "Pacific Railroad," from which we select the following table, showing the time required for transit between St. Louis and some of the principal points in the United States, when its railroad connections shall have been completed:

From St. Louis to	Hours.
Do do Boston	50
Do do New York	46
Do do Philadelphia	41
Do do Baltimore	38
Do do Washington	40
Do do Charleston	38
Do do Mobile	24
Do do New Orleans	28
Do do Detroit	19
Do do Cincinnati	24
Do do San Francisco	72
Do do San Francisco to New York	120

MURDER OF A WIFE.—It will be remembered that some weeks since it was stated that suspicion had been expressed in Woodford county, Kentucky, that the death of Mrs. Ball, in January last, then reported to have been caused by the accidental discharge of a gun, was really deliberate murder by her husband. Suspicion finally induced an examination. The body was taken up and was in good preservation. The coroner was conclusive against the husband. Ball had stated that the gun was loaded for the purpose of killing rats, and contained sixteen shot. Upon the post-mortem examination two hundred and seven shot were taken out of her head and neck. It appeared, also, upon the dissection, that he had been accustomed to beating her very cruelly, and had frequently said he did not expect to be troubled with her long. His bail is laid at \$12,000. He has held a very respectable position in society, and the family of the wife is in good standing.

A BLOODY TRAGEDY.—The vicinity of Dayton, Ohio, was the field of as dark and dreadful a tragedy on Friday night last as the annals of crime have afforded for years. An old widow woman and her son, a lad of some fourteen years, were found murdered in the woods by the roadside. The woman's name was Young; she owned a small mill, and with her son was accustomed to attending the Dayton market with meal, which they conveyed with a cart and horse.

The horse came home without the woman and boy, and on searching along the road their bodies were found, horribly mutilated with a hatchet. Frank Dick, the son-in-law of the woman, was arrested on suspicion of having committed the murder, and he afterwards confessed.

## (Louisville Journal, Thursday.)

LORD CAMPBELL AND A WELSH JURY.—In a case tried at the Denbigh assizes, the jury having been some time in considering the verdict, when the case was really a very clear one, the judge told them that once, when a jury had refused to convict a prisoner who had made a plain confession, a learned judge whom he just remembered—Chief Baron MacDonald—thus addressed the prisoner: "Prisoner, go and be honest, for your character is now so bad that the jury won't convict you because they can't believe your confession." His lordship struck his hand on the bench with some violence while repeating Judge MacDonald's words, which were evidently intended as a reproof for the jury.

FROM PORT AU PRINCE.—By an arrival at this port we have Port au Prince dates to August 2. The yellow fever continued to prevail there. A young missionary from New York, who accompanied Rev. Mr. Judd to the island, died of the disorder, and Mr. Judd himself had been attacked but recovered. It is stated, however, that there are not so many deaths this year in proportion to the attacks as there was last year.

## (Boston Traveller, 23d.)

WARM-HEARTED JUVENILES.—The "juniors" have warm hearts. Clifton Smith, of this place, collected on Tuesday, from the boys and girls of Alexandria, for the relief of the sufferers in New Orleans, upwards of fifty dollars, which he handed to the Mayor, to be sent to its proper destination.

## (Alexandria Gazette.)

LOLA MONTEZ is a funny woman. She would be *Heidi*, but was willing to be made "Hult."

## (Richmond paper.)

## Sale of the Pennsylvania State Works.

A project often agitated, but without success, is once more upon the tapis in Pennsylvania. The public works have notoriously become, in the hands of political demagogues, so powerful an engine of corruption, and have been so long and so grossly mismanaged, their revenues have been so regularly diminished by peculation and fraud, and the State debt so constantly and so heavily increased to aid them, that the people have grown weary of the twenty years' attempt to make them profitable. It is a curious fact, that the present motion for the sale of these improvements comes from the Democratic party, the very organization which has so long perverted them to base purposes. It is not difficult to understand this phenomenon.

In Pennsylvania, as in most other States, the Democratic party has for years been divided into two powerful and bitterly hostile factions, and in the warfare of these two, that which is predominant has used the extensive influence and patronage of the canal board with malignant effect. A natural consequence is, that the others are restive under this tyranny, and desire the sale of the public works as the only sure method of getting rid of it. The movement has been warmly endorsed in several strong Democratic counties, and appears to find much favor among Whigs, Democrats, and Independents. Of course the fact that it controls the canal board is opposed to the policy, and all its partisans are out in full cry against it.

The subject is one deserving of very careful consideration, disconnected from political commotions or bearings, and should properly be discussed only as a measure of public economy. A long and patient trial has been given to these works, and the people of the State have shown them every possible favor, in the hope that they might at length become remunerative, and assist to defray the vast debt incurred in making them. Their expectations have been doomed to continual disappointment. During the ten years extending from 1843 to 1851, inclusive, the tolls increased very progressively, presenting the following exhibit:

1842	.....	\$90,313 69
1843	.....	1,071,841 12
1844	.....	1,167,603 42
1845	.....	1,196,979 43
1846	.....	1,295,494 76
1847	.....	1,357,574 87
1848	.....	1,333,344 00
1849	.....	1,633,277 72
1850	.....	1,768,209 46
1851	.....	1,793,624 62

Apparently this is a very gratifying increase, as the receipts were nearly doubled in ten years. But the debt